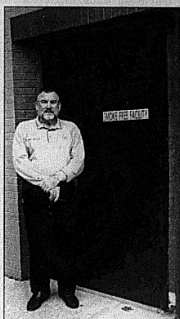


Will Morehead go smoke-free?



Photos by Sara Castle

Judge Clyde Thomas, who had lung cancer, supports a city-wide smoking ban.

Mayor, others looking to stop public smoking

BY MELISSA YEOMAN

OPINION EDITOR
The Rowan County Clean Indoor Air Initiative (CIAI) held a rally March 16 at the Morehead City Park to garner community support for a smoking ban that would make Rowan County businesses smoke free.

During opening remarks, Mayor Brad Collins talked about the importance of keeping the air clean in Morehead by not smoking in public places.

"I'll keep this short — there's nothing worse than hearing about smoking from a reformed smoker," said Collins, an ex-smoker.

Veronica Nunley, the keynote speaker,

presented facts and statistics about the effects of inhaling second-hand smoke.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has classified second-hand smoke as a Group A carcinogen — a substance known to cause cancer in humans for which there is no safe level of exposure. Other group A carcinogens include arsenic, asbestos, benzene (a solvent and a component of motor fuel), radon and asbestos.

"No one would want to work in a building filled with asbestos but people hang out in buildings where people smoke," Nunley said.

Nunley said even five minutes of second-hand smoke can increase the risk of heart attack and stroke and that waiters and waitresses who work in restaurants where smoking is allowed breathe in the equivalent of 1.5 to 2 packs of cigarettes per day.

Who's smoking is okay to deviate a whole group of people? Nunley asked.

Secondhand smoke is the number one environmental cause of cancer, Nunley said.

If you took all the exhaust fumes and other air pollutants and put them together

you still would not get the number of cancer victims of smoking," Nunley said.

Nunley presented what she said were benefits of smoke-free workplaces for the employers that included a decrease in healthcare costs, equipment lasting longer, enhanced productivity, a lower risk of fire, and increased employee morale.

She said benefits to employees include safe and healthful workplaces, non-exposure to second-hand smoke, and managers who appreciate a clear company policy for dealing with smoking.

A panel discussion was led by Dr. Anthony Weaver, County Judge Executive Clyde Thomas and Kenna Allen, chair of the Rowan County Champions for a Drug Free Kentucky Youth Advisory Board.

"Smoking, in my estimation, never helped anyone," Thomas said. "In fact, it has hurt many and killed some."

Thomas, who raised tobacco when he was elected judge, said he smoked for many years and discovered two years ago he had lung cancer.

Weaver discussed several points for sup-

porting a smoking ban. He said cigarette smoke is dangerous, smoke ventilation is not possible, smoking bans are financially feasible, and it is time for a change. He said the CIAI is not alone in thinking smoking is dangerous.

"We cannot be satisfied with the current state of things," Weaver said. Allen read a letter from the management of Wendy's restaurant in Morehead in which they thanked the county for allowing them the opportunity to go smoke-free.

Allen said she grew up in a smoking household but she and her friends do not smoke and she urges others not to smoke.

"You can't be healthy to play sports or do what you like if you smoke," Allen said. Mona McCann, who wrote the grant to start the initiative, said she hopes people will spread the word to restaurant and business owners that it is okay for them to join in banning smoking in their establishments.

Nunley said, "Research has clearly shown that if you ban smoking in restaurants and businesses some people will stop smoking."

EagleCard

Student
DOE, JOHN
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Trail Blazer graphic

EagleCards might go off-campus

BY MELISSA YEOMAN

OPINION EDITOR

At the March 4 Student Government Association meeting one of the topics discussed was the possibility of the EagleCard being used at off-campus dining locations. The program is currently on hold because Student Advantage, the company through which MSU was working, was bought out by Blackboard, the same company the University currently uses for online classes and classroom aides. Blackboard has put all new clients on hold until an undisclosed time.

University representative recently attending the National Association of College Card Readers meeting to get an update on how soon MSU can move forward with this project. At the meeting, other organizations were present from which the university could get ideas on how to better current card programs and ideas for future services.

Bill Redwine, director of auxiliary services, said "Setting up this service could potentially cost nothing for the University. The businesses chosen as part of the service would pay a fee to the University and the card service provider to set up the card readers."

Redwine said the long-term goal for the EagleCard is to include other off-campus services such as dry cleaners and service stations as well as on campus services such as keyless entry into dorms.

Michael Walters, vice president for Administration and Fiscal Services, "We know there are a lot of things we could do and that it would be a phase program to include the other services."

MSU is currently ahead of all other schools with its use of card-scanning palm

See **EAGLECARDS** — Page 2

Smoking policy examined

BY BRANDON VANDERPOOL

STAFF WRITER

The results of a recent student poll on smoking isn't going to ban smoking on the MSU campus, but it could serve as a starting point to create a change in existing smoking policies on campus.

Morehead State University's Student Government Association held an online poll last month to determine student opinion about smoking on campus.

The focus of this five-question survey was whether or not smoking should be allowed on campus and in residence halls.

SGA President Josh Gruenke said the results of the poll would not ban smoking on campus, but would help determine where students stand on the smoking issue.

SGA officers said they are looking at existing policies concerning smoking on

campus and plan to take action once they get a better understanding of what students think about the issue.

Gruenke said a possible solution would be to make one half of the campus non-smoking and the other half smoking. Any action to change the smoking issue will not occur until next semester, Gruenke said.

Gruenke said even though the SGA posted fliers all around campus, he thinks the online poll was not promoted enough, which might have contributed to the low participation.

Madonna Weatherly, vice president for Student Life, said MSU's existing policy does not allow smoking inside any classroom, office or academic building.

Smoking is allowed in residence hall rooms, unless the room is a non-smoking room, and outside of buildings. Some buildings have no-smoking signs posted

near doorways and windows to prevent the ventilation of cigarette smoke into the buildings.

Gruenke said SGA plans to hold forums on the smoking issue and to conduct another poll to get a larger sampling than the 281 students who responded to the recent online poll.

The Trail Blazer asked 30 students whether or not they knew about the online smoking poll. Of those, six students said they knew about it. Out of those six, only one responded.

Some of the students who knew about the poll but didn't respond said that they didn't have enough time to take the survey or they had forgotten about it.

Other students said they felt they were not well enough informed about the poll to respond.

Tuition freeze not happening

BY MELISSA YEOMAN

OPINION EDITOR

The Kentucky House of Representatives has turned down bills that would require public colleges and universities to freeze tuition beginning in fall 2004.

The bills were initiated by Indiana Governor Joe Kernan, who wrote a letter to regional universities asking them to do four things: give public notice of proposed tuition and/or mandatory fee increases at least 30 days before their adoption; hold at least one on-campus public meeting to discuss and receive public testimony on the increases; make final decisions by May 15 and leave them in place unless the governor or legislature later order state funding; and keep increases to 4 percent or less.

Rep. Jim Bruce, D-Hopkinsville, proposed a bill that traced 23 co-sponsors that would have frozen tuition at state colleges

and universities in Kentucky at 2004 rates through spring 2006.

A bill sponsored by Rep. Ron Cimmis, R-Middleton, would have required university tuition freezes to be implemented by the first year of tuition for four consecutive years.

MSU President Ronald G. Eaglin said he thinks the House made the right decision in turning down the bills.

"It [the tuition cap] would not benefit the students in the long-run," Eaglin said. "The tuition cap would have made it difficult for the University, which is already struggling under the pressure of state budget cuts to operate in the future, Eaglin said."

Had the bill passed, Eaglin said, up to 70 people, including professors, would have been laid off and many programs, such as tutoring offered through Support Services would have been cut.

He said it would have been necessary to increase class sizes and many classes would have been offered less often, making it difficult for students to finish their programs of study. He knew about it. Out of those six, only one responded.

Eaglin said until the economy changes and the state puts money back into higher education the trend of tuition inflation will continue.

The only way for the University to make up for the money being cut from the budget by the state is to raise tuition, Eaglin said.

For next semester, Eaglin proposes a 9 percent increase, and said he doesn't know if that will be enough to cushion the blows of the state cuts.

"It's a balancing act between providing quality education and not charging students more than they can afford," Eaglin said.

Some teachers blame KERA for bad writing

BY MICHAEL ADKINS

STAFF WRITER

Writing is a very important part of the college experience. From essays and term papers to formal proposals and news articles, college students spend a great deal of time writing.

But an increasing number of students are coming out of high school unprepared for the level of writing required for successfully completing college assignments. And some MSU professors believe that trend is growing.

Victoria Beyer, an English instructor at Morehead State University and professional writing coordinator for MSU's minor in technical and professional writing, said many of the students she teaches have major problems in their writing abilities.

"Many of our students do not have good

control over sentence structure, and they are not well organized or critical thinkers," Beyer said. "Students in my English 200 classes have a difficult time making the leap to analytical thinking when the assignment calls for analyzing the argument methods, persona, voice, or criteria of an essay."

Beyer estimates at least 70 percent of her students have trouble in the areas of grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, sentence composition, transitions, flow, assembly of pieces and other areas of good writing. She said only about 30 percent of her students write at a college-appropriate level.

When it comes to assigning blame for this problem, Beyer said the Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA) is a significant contributor to the problem. KERA was

enacted in 1990 and requires students to write non-graded pieces for portfolios in fourth, eighth and 12th grades.

"We all may need to tighten our standards for writing classes. Our students must have the skills to write well in their chosen professions because writing is integral to communication in all professions."

— Dr. Victoria Beyer

Kentucky instructor

grammar and mechanics, and be graded, throughout the high school years."

Beyer said MSU remedial classes are used to alleviate the problem.

"We have increased the number of remedial classes, and students whose ACT (scores) are below 18 are required to take one or more of them," Beyer said. "The problem needs to be addressed in high school, however, before their writing habits are ingrained."

Beyer said the ultimate responsibility for solving the problem once the students reach college lies with professors.

"We all may need to tighten our standards for writing classes," she said. "Our students must have the skills to write well in their chosen professions because writing is integral to communication in all profes-

sions."

Other MSU faculty members do not agree with Beyer's assessment of the situation. MSU English Professor Glen Clum said he does not believe students' abilities in writing are on the decline at all.

"If it seems that they are, this perception may be the result of enrollment by new students who would not have come to college a decade ago, or who might not come now if the economy were stronger and there were ample job opportunities for those without college degrees," Clum said. "In other words, I think we are getting a significant number of students now who don't really want to be in college — and certainly don't want to write college discourse — but the

See **WRITING** — Page 2

Program gives Morehead State credit to future instructors

STAFF REPORT

Morehead State University's Teacher Recruitment Program in the College of Education is working with nine high schools and four institutions of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System to implement the "College Cadet Dual Credit Course," (formerly known as Teacher Cadet) for high school juniors and seniors.

MSU has partnerships with four institutions of KCTCS - Ashland Community and Technical College, Mayhew Community and Technical College, Big Sandy Community and Technical College in Prestonsburg and Southeast Community and Technical College in Middletown - to provide successful students with three hours of college credit free of charge.

The nine high schools involved are East Ridge, Fleming County, Johnson Central, Lexington, Maguffin County, Mason County, Shelby County, West Carter and Whitesburg.

A fourth unit was added in 2003 to the curriculum to ensure that students meet the requirements as outlined in the course "Foundations of Education."

The class will require students to observe for 16 hours in a school setting (elementary, middle, high), work alongside a mentor teacher, attend school based decision making council (SBDM) and board of education meetings, write a philosophy of education statement, and participate in a "student-teaching" situation along with other assignments.

The Teacher Recruitment Program is involved in assisting with the implementation of Future Educator of America (FEA) chapters within area high schools. These students meet and interact with teachers and administrators to learn more about the field of education.

In September 2003, Morehead State University held its First Regional Future Educator Conference. Students from several of the program counties attended and entered competition events.

The conference winners advanced to Kentucky's first state competition. Fleming County High School received two awards for essay and chapter display and moved ahead to the National FEA Conference in Dallas.

At the national conference, the Fleming County students were named national champions for their award winning chapter display. The members of the Fleming County team were Mary Beth Corbin, Sheri Hatfield, Blake Gully, Ashley Johnson, Samatha Morris, Brittany Roark and Daniel Welch. Melinda Thomas serves as the FEA adviser.

In its search for high quality individuals to enter the teaching profession, the Teacher

Recruitment Program is seeking to award five Teacher of Tomorrow Scholarships to entering freshmen that plan to major in education. These students must have a minimum ACT score of 24 and grade point average of 3.0. Winners of the scholarships will be eligible to receive \$1,000 per semester for eight semesters.

The recipients of the "2003 Teacher of Tomorrow Scholarships" were: Lara Little, Frenchburg; Emily Robinson, Elkhorn City; Bethanie Skidmore, Mount Sterling; Sarah Sparks, Ottum; and Veronica Yackel, Olive Hill.

"Working with the Teacher Recruitment Program has been interesting and rewarding," Joan Callahan said of the three-year old program. She began as a teacher recruitment program assistant in June 2003 and was named teacher recruitment coordinator earlier this year.

A former teacher, Callahan taught at Inez Elementary School in Martin County for 17 years where she taught kindergarten and two grades, was a Title I Resource Teacher for two years, and served as extended school services coordinator and on the SBDM council.

An MSU graduate, Callahan earned bachelor's and master's degrees and a Rank I in elementary education. She is currently working on a Master of Arts in school administration degree.

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WRITING | Professor says some problems begin at early age

From Front

others study write as well as their counterparts did 30 years ago."

Despite this view, Colburn said only about 40 percent of his students write at an acceptable college level. He said the problem would be improved if grades were abolished in writing classes and students were not required to take them.

"Grades are external motivators, and recent research shows that writers improve only when they have internal motivators to do so," Colburn said. "Also, if we dropped the requirement, then all or most of the students in writing classes would be there because they want to be there - significantly improving the chances that they will improve."

Colburn said professors outside the English Department should also take some of the responsibility for correcting the problem.

"If teachers in other departments feel that students aren't writing well enough, then I think those teachers should help students learn how to write better and fall the students who don't write well enough at the end of the semester," Colburn said. "This would be much more sound pedagogical practice than the current practice of blaming students' poor writing on English teachers."

English teachers at Rowan County Senior High School did not respond to interview requests for this story.

Concerns about students' writing skills are not limited to members of the English department. Dr. Deborah Plum, a journalism professor, said she has also seen a steady decline in students' writing abilities over the years.

"Their writing skills, reasoning, knowledge of grammar - or lack thereof - are all problems," Plum said. "Also, synthesizing what they know into some logical sequence is a problem I've seen."

"I've had students report they haven't had grammar since fourth grade," she said.

Plum said not writing at an appropriate level is a more serious problem than many students realize, that will not turn out as a disadvantage.

"This lack of skills will hurt them in the workplace, because they'll be required to conform to certain standards in their jobs," Plum said. "If they aren't held to standards in school, that will not turn out as a disadvantage."

Plum said the remedial classes designed to help students improve are a good idea, but they might not be around to help much more.

"With the budget cuts in Frankfort, adjuncts get cut, sections get cut, and whole classes get cut, so that could be a problem for students," she said.

Plum said the responsibility for fixing the problems with educators at all levels.

"I think more of an emphasis on grammar, sentence structure and spelling in the early grades would help," Plum said. "If we, even in our department, had a uniform set of things we always mark wrong, that would be good."

Professors aren't the only ones who see deficiencies in students' writing skills.

Lisa Hinkle, an MSU sophomore majoring in psychology, said she was surprised by the writing expectations facing her when she got to MSU.

Hinkle said she was not taught to write at an appropriate level while in high school.

"In my 10th grade year, I was given instruction in grammar, sentence structure, and flow in lecture format," Hinkle said. "My other years of high school (English) concentrated on literature."

Hinkle said she now considers herself skilled at writing, but she had to teach herself sentence structure skills and the ability to summarize material in effective sentences before she reached that point.

Hinkle blamed KERA for much of the decline in students' skills and said high schools need to make major changes to help students improve their writing abilities.

"Although I believe the emphasis on writing skills is being more improved, high schools have a long way to go to catch up to college standards," she said.

When asked if he'd use the EagleCard off campus, sophomore Kevin Wright said, "Heck yeah, I would."

Junior Shannon Madden said, "I don't know about as because there's a possibility of students not eating but for food I think it's an awesome idea."

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Open House

The College of Social Work at UK will showcase its Master of Social Work (MSW) and Doctoral (PhD) programs.

When: April 13th

Where: MSU, Academic Athletic Center located in the Len Miller Room

Time: 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

For more information about this Open House, contact Lynn Geurin at 606-783-2409 or email lgeurin@uky.edu

Faculty and staff from the College of Social Work will be available to answer any questions about admissions and the curriculum.

EAGLECARD [Many say they would use their cards off campus]

From Front

pilots which allow student access to campus related events such as free movie night at the University Theatre and for Greek organization to scan the cards of their members. The EagleCard also saves the user \$0.25 at soda machines and \$0.10 per load at campus laundry facilities.

Many students are in favor of using the EagleCard at off-campus locations.

Junior Kirby Haskins said, "It [using the

EagleCard off campus] would make it a whole lot easier for students who don't carry cash to get food or whatever they need."

Haskins who live off campus also said he'd be more likely to use his card if he could use it at off-campus locations.

Senior Paula Noble, who does not currently use EagleCard, said she'd be more likely to use it if it were accessible at off-campus locations.

Noble said, "I'd love it, especially for gas. I come down here often with only a credit card and it would be nice to have that as a backup card."

Junior Shannon Madden said, "I don't know about as because there's a possibility of students not eating but for food I think it's an awesome idea."

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The Trail Blazer

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EDITORIAL

Students need to become involved in SGA decisions

The handful of students who voted in the recent Student Government Association officer election stand apart from the general population whose apathy can prove detrimental to the spirit of the University.

Approximately 16 percent of students (about 800) voted in the election that determined the six students who will run MSU's student governing body during the next academic year. This is a greater number than voted in the past several SGA elections - in fact, voter turnout nearly doubled. The increase, however, is not significant considering MSU's student enrollment is more than 9,000.

Also, many students who voted are members of organizations that either charge members fines if they don't vote or frown upon not voting. Either way, a higher authority prodded a portion of the 16 percent who saw fit to cast their ballots.

The standard reason voiced by many students for not voting is that SGA does nothing important that affects students. But SGA has the power to create change at the University, and it recently exercised that power.

Beginning in the fall, SGA will no longer allocate funds to student organizations because of what one officer said was a biased selection process with no apparent solution. Official university organizations used to be able to present proposals to SGA requesting specific amounts of money for projects and activities along with explanations of how the money would be spent. The proposals were voted upon by SGA members and, if passed, funds were awarded. Now the money set aside for student organization support will be spent on bringing educational speakers to the University.

This is big change for students involved in university organizations. How many organizations depended on SGA funding for operation or a large-scale event? Of the students upset about SGA's policy change, how many voted in last year's officer election and attend SGA weekly meetings to stay informed? SGA has more power than students think. At two Kentucky universities, the student governments are amending their constitutions in order to regulate student media. The SGA at Northern Kentucky University is trying to gain control of funding in the university newspaper in order to ensure more positive coverage of SGA appears in the newspaper. And at Bellarmine University, the SGA is trying to take away stipends for editors because one editor asked what SGA officers deemed a "mean" and "unethical" question, and also because it was determined that the newspaper provided insufficient coverage of SGA this year.

MSU students need to start caring. Those who have chosen to represent the University and its students during the coming year as SGA leaders have said the well-being of students is one of their top priorities. Everyone else needs to appreciate the effort and do their part to monitor and support SGA leadership.

A.M.

Consider This . . .

"Sometimes I worry about being a success in a mediocre world."

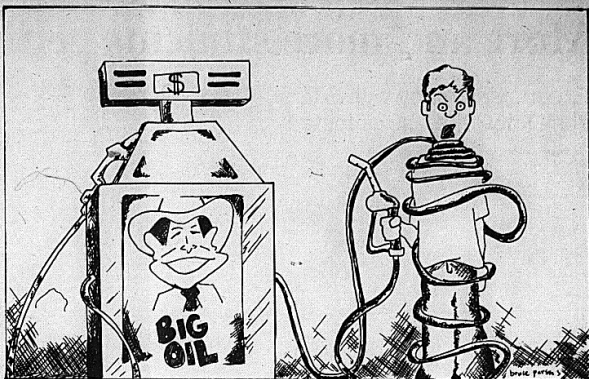
- Lily Tomlin

"As human beings, we are endowed with freedom of choice, and we cannot shun off our responsibility upon the shoulders of God or nature. We must shoulder it ourselves. It is our responsibility."

- Arnold J. Toynbee

"Lots of folks confuse bad management with destiny."

- Kim Hubbard



Commentary

Graduation brings fear of the future



BY MELISSA YEOMAN
OPINION
EDITOR

Graduation is fast approaching and I will soon be a contributing member of society. But I am overcome by fear of what the future holds.

I have always been the type of person who needs a plan. Even if it is somewhat flexible. I need to know where I'm going and at least a vague idea of what I will be doing once I get there. But as of yet, I don't have such a plan for my future.

I have begun the frightening hunt for the job that will lead me into a career.

I have sent my resume to more companies and businesses than I can remember, in hopes of landing a position in this time of economic crisis.

Through my many hours of searching and talking to human resource workers, I am beginning to understand that my degree will be helpful in the future, right now, it is a hindrance. Because I have a degree, I am overqualified for most entry-level positions in the field I have chosen.

The fact I have worked for two universities also adds to the difficulty of finding a place in the workforce.

My nervousness at being just a little more than a month away from graduation without any job offerings is compounded by not knowing where I will be living.

During my whole career at MSU, I have lived in dorms,

never having to pay my own rent or worry about forgetting to pay for electricity or water.

Now, I must go out into the world and not only find a source of income but I must also find a place to live that meets my needs and fits into a very small budget.

Although, I know that my parents would love to help me and are willing to help me out in any way they can, their being "five hours away, in a city I have never lived in, makes it difficult to consider moving "home."

The choice then becomes, do I move to the city my parents live in and hope to get a job there? Or do I move to another city, the place I consider home?

I would like to live and work in Louisville because I have friends who live there, making it possible for me to have a better opportunity to keep in touch with them. And being in a large city makes it more likely that I will be able to find an inexpensive apartment and a well-paid job.

Deciding the right choices to make for the future is much more stressful than passing exams and writing research papers has been.

At this point, I am almost willing to give up trying to find the job I want in the place I want to live and do anything to make some money.

Surely, there is something out there that I won't be too qualified for and yet will still enjoy doing.

Melissa Yeoman can be reached at opinion@trailblazeronline.net

Letters to the Editor

SGA fund cuts bad for student organizations

I am writing on behalf of the student organization on campus that after this semester will not receive any more funding from the SGA.

At a recent SGA meeting it was voted to stop the funding of on-campus student organizations. I being a member of a student organization know how hard it is to raise money for your organization within this apathetic community. So this will affect all organizations on campus that depend on this funding as a lifeline. The basic fee of making flyers and ads for your organization is extremely outrageous on campus and it takes all the money you have per semester to achieve your advertising goals. I don't think this was such a good move by the SGA because now funding for many organizations will not be there and they will die a slow death.

Steve Middleton
MSU Student

MSU dealing with budget cut effects

I'm writing in praise of the article "MSU looking at ways to combat budget cuts" (Feb. 12). I think it is a very important issue that impacts all students.

I have dealt with the crowded classrooms already, and I'm becoming increasingly concerned. "We are losing our variety in lower level and upper level classes and with our capability to broaden our knowledge outside our department of focus. I find that really

sad. I'll be graduating in December but I feel for MSU's prospective students.

According to the article, they will not only be paying higher tuition but also will likely, because cutting printing will require posting material on the Web, be charged a distance learning fee! And requiring freshmen to bring laptops seems extreme. There are already a lot of students who can't afford tuition costs now and who also depend on university computers! Wouldn't this all fall back to federal assistance anyway? If students can't pay it, wouldn't the government have to pick up the slack?

With so many students on federal assistance, requiring more from the students is essentially requiring more from the government. Your article really warns students of what is to come. I'm curious as to what the Board of Regents will decide for our tuition costs.

Kelly Stanley
MSU Student

Passion article is informative, reader says

I am writing in response to the commentary about "The Passion of the Christ." I thought that it was a very well written and informative article. I must agree with the author that a Hollywood movie should not be the basis for religious conversion but perhaps it is a means of reaching an audience that would not otherwise be exposed to the subject matter - prompting further examination. I've yet to see "The Passion," but I have to believe that the Book is better!

Patrick Adams
MSU Student

Tell Us What's On Your Mind

The Trail Blazer welcomes reader responses! Letters should be 400 words or less, signed, and include an address and phone number (for verification purposes). Letters must be received in Room 317, Breckinridge Hall or emailed to letters@trailblazeronline.net by 4 p.m. Friday for the next week's publication. The Trail Blazer reserves the right to edit letters for purposes of clarity, brevity and legal considerations.

THE ISSUE

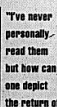
Over the last nine years, Dr. Tim LaHaye's "Left Behind" series, an interpretation of the Book of Revelation, has sold more than 40 million copies.

The books have drawn criticism from those who say the series is a distortion of Scripture. Dr. LaHaye says he is merely drawing his ideas from the literal meanings of the Bible.

"Glorious Appearing," which went on sale Tuesday, is the most anticipated and potentially controversial "Left Behind" novel yet and is the installment in which Jesus himself returns.



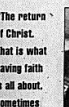
Amanda Henderson
Senior
AdP
Chesapeake, Ohio



Luke Meighan
Senior
Journalism
Lexington, Ky.



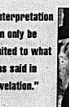
Franklin DeWar
Senior
Government
New Richmond, Ohio



Niki Davis
Senior
Theatre
Jacksonville, Fla.

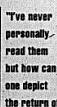


Dominick Schillizzi
Senior
English
Louisville, Ky.



"They follow Revelation closely but there is poetic license taken in the books. The authors fill in the blanks with action."

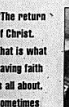
Are the "Left Behind" books an accurate depiction of Biblical Scripture?



"I've never personally read them but how can one depict the return of Christ?"



"The return of Christ. That is what having faith is all about. Sometimes faith is all the proof you need."



"Interpretation can only be limited to what was said in Revelation."



"The overall idea is portrayed accurately."

CAMPUS LIFE

More and more students getting 'love bugs'

Experts say many with STDs don't know they are infected

BY BETHANY LEWIS
SPORTS EDITOR

Twenty-eight different types of sexually transmitted diseases are found mostly among college-age men and women and research shows more than half of those who are infected are not aware they carry a disease.

The 28 different "love bugs" found in the United States annually affect two-thirds of those under age 25, according to Houghton College research.

Judy Krug, MSU Student Wellness coordinator, said the ages of college students range from 18 to 22, making them high-risk populations.

for the spread of STDs. Common diseases include gonorrhea, syphilis, chlamydia, HIV (AIDS), hepatitis B, herpes, crabs and human

papilloma virus (HPV).

Kenisha King, MSU director of Health Services and nurse administrator, said both chlamydia and gonorrhea are on the rise. More cases have been recently reported in Morehead than in the past.

Chlamydia and gonorrhea are both treatable bacterial infections and are more common in women than in men, according to the American

Social Health Association Website.

According to an article by Marcella Brown in the April 11, 2002 issue of *Ohio State's* *Lancet*, 10 to 15 percent of college students are infected with chlamydia and research shows 85 percent of females who contract chlamydia have no symptoms.

Most people with any type of STD show no symptoms and if there are symptoms they may

appear immediately or years later, according to the ASHA website.

Some STD symptoms found in infected men and women include sores, bumps, or blisters near the genitals or mouth, burning while urinating, pain in the lower abdomen area, itching, a bad smell or unusual discharge of the penis or vagina and abnormal bleeding.

Krug said the main problem with the transmission of these diseases is most students think it cannot happen to them.

"Everybody thinks someone else will get infected," she said. "People don't doubt it's there, they doubt they are going to contract it."

King said it could be misleading to say the MSU student population has an STD problem because MSU is a global university — with people traveling back and forth from home, it is hard to tell where certain diseases come from.

She said in order to avoid contracting an STD, those who are sexually active should limit the number of partners and use protection.

Types of protection include choosing one trusted partner and the

use of latex condoms or water-based spermicide.

Krug said it only takes one exposure of an infected partner to contract an STD. She advises anyone who has had unprotected sex at least once to get tested immediately.

"Care for yourself and your partner enough to get tested," Krug said.

Students can get free screenings and treatments for chlamydia, gonorrhea, herpes, syphilis, and HIV at the Caudill Health Clinic.

All students who enter the health clinic are required to sign a notice of disclosure, which specifically describes what can be released from the clinic records.

King said, "Everything at the clinic is strictly confidential. Whether they (students) come in with a bang nail or gonorrhea, it is confidential."

But for some students, the promise of confidentiality isn't enough to make them want to go to the on-campus clinic.

Laura, a freshman who would not give her last name, said she does not feel comfortable going to the clinic on campus.

"I am afraid of what people who saw me there would assume," she said.

Laura said because she is so far from home, if she wanted to be tested she would go to the Rowan County Health Center.

A junior who would not disclose his name and asked to be called Joe said the Caudill Health Clinic seems small and if he wanted to get tested for an STD he would go home to a bigger clinic.

Joe said the thought of getting an STD frightens him and he never realized it could be a problem at MSU.

"I am not worried about it as much as I should be," he said. "Though some are afraid to get tested, some MSU students say they face the issue and take precaution."

Sophomore Rodney Haley said he is not afraid of contracting a

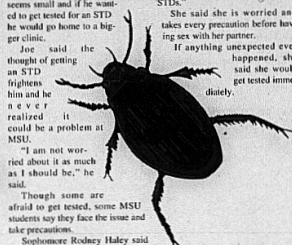
STD but he does take it into consideration before having sex with someone.

"I ask them before having sex with them," he said. "I don't take it lightly."

Laura said she has heard rumors of a spread of STDs on campus. "It's scary," she said. "I hear people talking about different STDs."

She said she is worried and takes every precaution before having sex with her partner.

If anything unexpected ever happened, she said she would get tested immediately.



Dance Marathon underway

BY TIA DOBSON
STAFF WRITER

The Children's Miracle Network (CMN) and the University of Kentucky Children's Hospital are working together to hold the first annual Dance Marathon at Morehead State University to raise money to benefit children.

The Student Activities Council (SAC) is in charge of the event and others have joined in to help. SAC has set a goal to raise between \$2,500 and \$3,000 for this event.

Participants are asked to raise \$20, which serves as a registration fee.

Jerome Stevens, SAC member, said there has been a positive response to the Dance Marathon.

SAC is expecting 150 to 200 participants, not including 30 volunteer student workers.

Many community organizations and businesses have volunteered and become sponsors by donating money or time.

Larry Fannin Chevrolet, Stuckey's Beauty Salon, Expressions, Soul Salon, St. Claire Medical Center, and MSU's Junior Women's Club have all donated money to help with the planning and putting on of the event.

Fun Enterprises, out of Boston have volunteered to make picture key chains of participants and their friends.

Stevens said the event is a very emotional community event.

"I hope students receive a sense of community and a sense of ability that we can raise money to benefit children," he said.

Annalisa Lich, CMN director at UK, said that because this is the first event it is a learning experi-

ence but "Even if you break even, we have raised awareness."

Stevens said he hopes the event will grow for next year.

Activities for the evening include dinner and breakfast catered by Aramark, a live radio broadcast, prize giveaways, a concert by The Broken Raincoats, games, karaoke, Twister, and dancing.

Several times during the night, morale dances, such as line dances, will be held to lift spirits and wake people up.

Also during the night, families will share their testimonies of how they have been helped by CMN.

"The great thing about CMN, it's not just raising money, and not showing where it goes. You see where the money goes and who it benefits," Stevens said.

This Dance Marathon is the first in Kentucky but the event has a rich and prosperous history that began in 1973 at Penn State University.

The Interfraternity Council began the marathon as an annual event to benefit the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State's Hershey Medical Center. Today the event raises over \$2 million annually.

CMN first heard about the Dance Marathon when

Indiana University raised more than \$60,000 in just their third event.

The money went to the Ryan White Infectious Diseases fund at Riley Hospital for Children, a CMH hospital in Indianapolis.

CMN started their Dance Marathon program in 1995 when four schools raised \$142,000.

The next year 10 schools came together and raised more than \$300,000. In 1997, eight more schools joined in and doubled the amount to \$600,000.

Dozens of schools and tens of thousands of students from coast to coast participate.

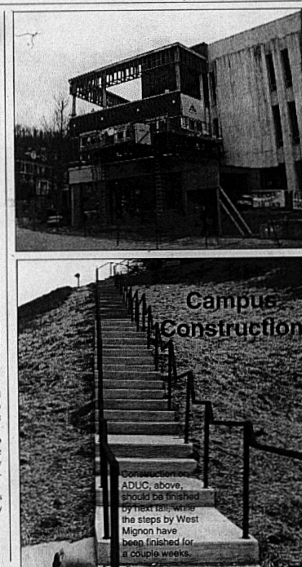
The Dance Marathon is just one way CMN raises money to benefit children. Other fundraisers include auctions, silent auctions and grant proposals.

UK Children's Hospital, the only CMH hospital in the state, also has events/programs with UK men's basketball coach Tobey Smith and the athletes.

The equipment that CMN purchases helps with recovery and treatment such as the Ecno machine. The machine is a heart and lung machine for babies.

CMN also puts money into research to help find cures for some of the most common, yet currently incurable diseases, such as diabetes, cystic fibrosis, and cancer.

MSU is one of hundreds of schools that participate every year in their own Dance Marathon.



SAC has set a goal to raise between \$2,500 and \$3,000 for this event.

Several times during the night, morale dances, such as line dances, will be held to lift spirits and wake people up.

MSU Photo

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SGA Smoking Survey

- Are you a smoker?
YES 192 NO 90
- Are you bothered by second hand smoke?
YES 226 NO 55
- Should there be designated smoking areas on campus?
YES 171 NO 111
- Do you want a smoke free campus?
YES 202 NO 80
- Do you want smoke free resident halls?
YES 41 NO 240

Comments or questions on student issues?
Visit: <http://people.morehead-st.edu/orgs/sga/>

MSU one game short of three-game sweep

Eagles defeat Tenn. State in doubleheader but fall 6-0 in final contest

BY TIA DOBSON
STAFF WRITER

The Lady Eagle softball team returned home last weekend after spending spring break competing in Nashville, Tenn.

MSU completed a three game series against Tennessee State, winning two (7-4, 5-1) Saturday and losing one (0-6) Sunday.

Saturday, the Eagles (11-16) 4-0 scored first in the third inning when three straight hits brought in two runs.

In the fourth inning, the Eagles added another run before TSU (11-20/2) switched pitchers, junior sophomore Justin Jontz to Tarah Evansko.

The Tigers then used a three-hit, two run fifth and one hit in the sixth inning to tie the game at three going into the bottom of the sixth.

To step ahead, the Eagles turned up their offense and scored four runs in the sixth. Sophomore right fielder Lyndsey Jackson led the inning with a leadoff home run.

After Jackson's run the Eagles rallied together as they took advantage of two singles, a walk, a wild pitch, and a double to finish off the inning.

To start the seventh inning MSU junior pitcher Stephanie Hernandez was replaced by freshman Nikki Shalkers, who finished the game.

TSU tried one last time to rally in the final inning by loading the bases, but Shalkers forced three ground ball outs to end the game and bring the victory to the Eagles.

In MSU's fifth straight win over TSU, Hernandez, who pitched six innings, allowed only five hits, no walks, and had three strike-outs. She is now ranked sixth on MSU's career strike out list.

Morehead's freshman center fielder Krystle Coleman led the team hitting 3-for-3. She scored twice and stole a base.

Jackson went 1-for-1 at the plate walked twice and scored twice.

In game two on Saturday both teams remained scoreless through three and a half innings.

MSU hit two doubles to put runners on second and third with two outs and freshman pitcher Lauren Cook singled the two runners in. MSU went up 2-0.

In the bottom of the fifth Jackson hit a home run, gained an RBI and Morehead led 4-0.

The Tigers made a pitching change, but two batters later freshman

catcher Amanda McCrady put another ball over the fence to give the Eagles a 5-0 lead.

McCrady's home run was number 11 for the Eagles this season and ties last season's total.

Tennessee again tried to rally in the sixth inning when a single to center field by sophomore second baseman Misty Adfield allowed senior first baseman Shannon Hicks to score and end the drought for TSU.

MSU junior pitcher Jaquie Jackson entered the game as the Tigers loaded the bases in the seventh inning. She struck out two of five batters and secured the 5-1 victory for the Eagles.

McCrady led MSU at the plate as she went 2-for-3. She had one RBI and two runs.

Lyndsey Jackson had two RBIs as she went 1-for-1 at the plate.

Sunday, the game remained

scoreless until the fifth inning when the Lady Tigers scored three runs from senior Hicks' base-clearing double.

Morehead scored three more runs in the seventh after an RBI error and led by six.

Morehead had the opportunity to score fifteen times. They left two runners on base in the second inning, three in the third, two in the fourth, three in the fifth, two in the sixth, and three in the seventh.

In game three against the Tigers, King went 3-for-1 at the plate, and had four assists.

The Eagles double header against Louisville on Wednesday was cancelled.

But the Eagles will begin a five game series this weekend as they play Austin Peay in a double-header on Saturday and a single game on Sunday. Both games will begin at 1 p.m.

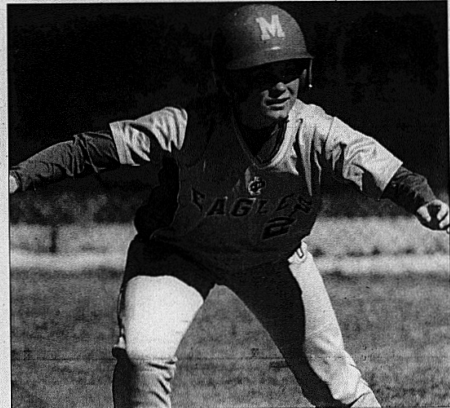


Photo by Bethany Lewis

Freshman centerfielder Krystle Coleman scored two out of MSU's seven runs, had three hits and one put out during the first game against Tennessee State on Saturday.



Eagle Notes

Baseball loses five on the road over spring break

The Eagles spend vacation in Tennessee and Alabama and score a total of 16 runs in five games.



Photo by Bethany Lewis

Junior infielder Zac Carr scored one run, had two hits, a put out, and two assists on Saturday during the first match-up with Austin Peay. He also added three hits, one RBI and two assists on Sunday.

Spring break week at Morehead State University did not rest or relaxation for the Baseball Eagles who had a week filled with road trips to Vanderbilt, Alabama and Austin Peay.

The Eagles opened the week with a 9-4 loss at Vanderbilt, then lost 20-2 at Alabama. The week ended with the Eagles losing three Ohio Valley Conference at Austin Peay. The G-1 won both ends of Saturday's doubleheader 6-3 and 8-3, then took Sunday's single game 6-4.

MSU is now off until next weekend when they travel to Tennessee Tech for an OVC series. Both Saturday's doubleheader and Sunday's single game in Cookeville are scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. CST (2 p.m. EST).

Morehead will return home to Allen field to face UT Martin on April 9 in a doubleheader at 2 p.m.

Storti becomes first OVC Tennis Player of the Week

Sophomore Damian Storti became the first Morehead State men's tennis player to earn the Ohio Valley Conference's Athlete of the Week award.

Storti helped lead the Eagles to a 3-1 week, including grabbing three conference victories, with wins over Eastern Kentucky, Eastern Illinois and Austin Peay.

He went 3-0 in OVC play and 3-1 overall in singles this past week, after moving into the starting lineup due to a season-ending injury to his

brother, Adam. Storti also went 2-1 in the OVC and 3-1 overall in doubles with a new partner (freshman Greg Johnstone) and a new spot in the lineup (No. 1, after teaming with his brother at No. 3).

This spring, Storti is 4-3 in singles and owns a perfect 3-0 mark in the conference. He is 4-2 at the No. 6 spot on the ladder. In doubles, he and his brother were 6-2 before Adam's season ended. Since switching to new partner Johnstone, Storti is 3-1, all at No. 1.

Individually this season, he boasts a 9-6 doubles mark.

Morehead State has rocketed out to a 12-5 overall record this season and boasts an impressive 5-1 mark in conference play.

This year, the OVC decided to name both a male and female tennis Player of the Week for the first time in league history. The conference office announced this week's winners (the third of the season) on Wednesday night.

School record-high 73 student-athletes earn Dean's List honors

STAFF REPORT

For the third straight semester, a record number of Morehead State student-athletes were named to the school's Dean's List.

For the fall 2003 session, 73 student-athletes were named to the list for a total of 74 times, which topped the previous known high of 68 last spring.

The mark also bettered last fall's 67 student-athletes named 68 times. In total, 22 percent of MSU's student-athletes earned the honor.

In order to qualify for the Dean's List, an undergraduate must have taken at least 12 hours and have earned a 3.5 grade point average for the current semester.

The 73 student-athletes come from all 13 of Morehead State's athletic teams (with cross country and track and field, and men's and women's rifle each combined into single groupings).

In addition, 22 student-athletes completed a 4.0 GPA this past fall. It was the most since 23 individuals posted that mark in the spring

of 2001.

A department-best four student-athletes from the women's basketball team recorded a perfect GPA.

Leading the way with the highest total of honorees were softball and football each with nine. Women's cross country and track and field followed with eight; while baseball, women's soccer and women's volleyball each had seven; women's basketball and men's tennis each had six; men's cross country and track and field, and women's tennis each had four; men's basketball, and men's and women's rifle had three; and men's golf had one.

Sophomore Ben Boni was honored as a member of both the football and men's track and field teams.

See a list of Dean's List Athletes online at www.msueagles.com

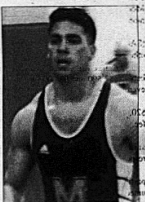


Photo by Bethany Lewis

Sophomore track and field member and football player Ben Boni is one of 73 student-athletes who is honored on MSU's Dean's List for holding greater than a 3.5 GPA. Boni is a biology major.



Photo by Bethany Lewis

Senior men's tennis player Damian Storti was named OVC Athlete of the Week. He is the first ever tennis player to receive the conference honor at Morehead.

Facilities hinder recruiting



Morehead State University might be losing out on quality athletes this spring due to poor facilities and equipment.

In March when high school athletes all over the country came to MSU, the physical appearance of athletic facilities may have strongly affected their decision.

From a personal experience, when I came to MSU in 2000 on a college visit I was not pleased with what the softball program had to offer.

Balls used for hitting practice included only a few hardballs in decent condition and what was left of worn out Nerf balls. Practice was held in Chwereddy Gymnasium and the girls had to practice in poorly lit, crowded hallways.

Students passing by on their way to class commonly interfered and the team would stop briefly to avoid hitting people walking by.

Another problem, is the softball locker room is located in the Academic Athletic Center and the field is behind the baseball field. Players have to travel to the AAC before each practice and game to get uniforms and equipment.

The biggest problem the softball program faces is the field doesn't have lights. Without lighting, games are called off early and MSU cannot host tournaments.

The softball program isn't the only program that needs help. The track practices on an asphalt surface that isn't in any kind of condition for athletic training.

The track, or what's left of the track, is diminishing slowly. Several areas have already caved in, and people could easily get hurt if they stepped in one of the potholes.

The baseball program is slowly making changes, but many improvements are still needed. The diamond isn't standard size, and there's a valley in right center field that looks bad and is potentially injurious to players.

The right field fence on the baseball field is noticeably shorter than the left. The small creek running behind the fence caused MSU to hang a tall unattractive net to keep batters from hitting easy home runs.

If it were not for the persuasion of close friends, family and former teammates many players would not even consider MSU.

If the university ever wants to improve its athletics, administrators must invest more interest and resources into upgrading facilities.

Most Division I schools would be embarrassed by what MSU has to offer prospective athletes.

Golfers finish second at EKV Invitational

STAFF REPORT

Morehead State University's youthful golf team fired a final round nine-under par 279 and rallied for a second place finish in the Eastern Kentucky Spring Invitational. March 26-27 at Arlington Golf Course in Richmond, Ky.

MSU, with a lineup of three sophomores and two freshmen, began the final round in fifth place, 14 shots behind eventual tournament winner Eastern Kentucky and eight shots behind second-place Tennessee State. By shooting one of the lowest rounds in school history, the Eagles caught TSU and tied for second place and finished only 10 shots behind EKV.

As a team, the host Colonels finished at 10-under par 854 for the 54-hole tournament that featured 14 teams and several individuals.

MSU and TSU were at even par 864. Austin Peay finished in fourth (866), followed by Oakland University (881), Cincinnati (895), Delaware (896), Dayton (899) and Wright State (906).



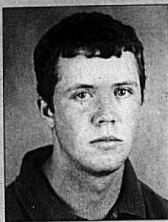
Wright State (906), Detroit Mercy (918), Lewis University (920), Youngstown State (935), Cumberland College (938) and IPFW (944).

Eagle sophomore Kyle Litter had the low round of the tournament, a final round four-under par 68, and was MSU's top finisher.

He completed 54 holes at four-under par 212 and tied for third. Freshman Matt Gann tied for ninth at 217. Sophomore Casey Wade shot a final round three-under par 69 and tied for 11th at 218. Freshman Ryan Martin and sophomore Austin Hansford tied for 27th, both at 225.

Next up for the Eagle golfers is the Johnny Owens Invitational, host by the University of Kentucky, April 2-3, at the University Club of Kentucky. Participating teams in addition to MSU and the host school, Kentucky, are Ball State, Eastern Kentucky, Eastern Michigan, Iowa State, Marshall, Ohio, Louisiana-Monroe, Louisville, Missouri and Western Kentucky.

Trail Blazer Student-Athlete of the Week: Kyle Litter



Kyle Litter

Sophomore golfer Kyle Litter's final-round 68 was instrumental in leading the Eagles to one of the best single-day team performances in school history on Saturday at the Eastern Kentucky Spring Invitational.

For the tournament, MSU tallied a 297-288-279-864, finishing at even par.

Individually, Litter shot a 73-71-68 for a 54-hole total of 212, which was four under par and tied for third overall out of the 86 participants.

After nine rounds this spring, Litter leads the Eagles with a 736 average, almost two and a half strokes better than the team's next closest individual.

Litter's Saturday final-round 68 was the lowest on the team this spring and was both the low round for the tournament and his lowest of the year. He has recorded top-10 finishes in all three of MSU's spring tournaments, highlighted by his third-place showing at EKV, and has led the Eagle contingent in each outing.

Litter is from Chillicothe, Ohio and is the Trail Blazer Student-Athlete of the Week.

The built pin at Sonney Allen Baseball Field is a prime example of MSU's deteriorating facilities. This is located on the right side of the field and is used for pitching warm-ups.

Photos by
Bathany Lewis



MSU Track and Field teams are forced to use an asphalt track and homemade sterile chases. This is another example of poor facilities caused by lack of funding.



Sports writers can be reached at 783-2697

YOUR KIND OF NEWS

Thursday
5 p.m.

Movie Warehouse New Releases for April

- April 6**
The Matrix Revolutions
Cheaper by the Dozen
- April 13**
Timeline
Kill Bill: Volume 1
- April 20**
Master & Commander:
The Far Side of the World
The Haunted Mansion
Win a Date With Tad Hamilton
- April 27**
Big Fish
Love Actually
Stuck on You
Love Don't Cost a Thing
The Cooler



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